



Guelph Engineering Society



Report on Essco's First Year Integration Conference at University of Ottawa,
January 30 - February 1, 2009.

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1. Purpose of Conference

The purpose of this conference was to introduce first year students to ESSCO and the external affairs of their EngSoc. Students are given the opportunity to network with each other and with professional organizations in Ontario. This conference encourages first year students to get involved and become leaders at their schools.

2. Personal Goals for Conference

My goals for this conference were to meet as many first year students from other schools as I could. I hoped to learn about how first year is at other schools and compare it to my own first year experiences. I also wanted to learn more about ESSCO and how it affects me.

3. Summary of Events

Introduction to PEO and OSPE

- *This presentation featured representatives from PEO and OSPE*
- *PEO is governing body for professional engineers in Ontario*
- *OSPE is an advocacy group*
- *Both offer student memberships*
- *OSPE student membership is \$25 and includes many benefits*
- *PEO membership is free and you can register for it online*

Dan Dicaire

- *Former uOttawa student who did a lot for their engineering society*
- *Started many traditions at uOttawa such as snow castles*
- *Inspired listeners to get involved in their engineering societies*
- *He talked about how to balance school with getting involved*
- *He believes you work best when you are busy*
- *He suggests you try new things*
- *He says feed off the energy of others. "You are their tool, they are your fuel"*
- *Never stop saying "Wouldn't it be cool if..."*

ESSCO 101 & 102

- *ESSCO has the purpose of bringing together all of the Engineering Student Societies in Ontario*
- *ESSCO stands for Engineering Student Societies Council of Ontario*

- *It was founded in 1987*
- *Its official fruit is the pineapple, official animal is the flamingo, official drink is the pink flamingo drink from a pineapple and official farm animal is the goat*
- *Not as formal as CFES but still a serious organization*
- *Has an interesting and humorous history*

Drew Dudley

- *Drew Dudley gave a talk on leadership in schools*
- *Explained to us that marks don't have to be the only thing to be proud of in university*
- *Encouraged and inspired us to get involved*
- *Former co-coordinator of Shinerama for Canada*
- *Very involved in charity work*
- *Encouraged us to get the most out of our university experience*
- *Drew Dudley was probably the best speaker I have ever seen. It is hard to summarize the experience*

CFES for Dummies

- *CFES is the governing body for engineering students all over Canada*
- *Has several conferences each year for students at all engineering schools in Canada*
- *Project Magazine is official magazine of CFES*

Frosh Talks

- *All schools run different frosh week events*
- *Most schools try and keep their events dry*
- *Many do Engineering cuts and dye themselves*
- *Many schools run scavenger hunts (havenger skunts) similar to the ones at Guelph*
- *Most schools use frosh week to get students interested in getting involved*

ESSCO Cofounder

- *Him and his friends had the idea of an organization that brought together engineering students all over Ontario*
- *Started with the idea of wanting to go to every bar in Ontario*
- *He was very involved with his engineering student society at Western*
- *He is very successful now*
- *He encouraged students to get involved*

4. Evaluation

i) Conference Organizers

This was an excellent conference. It was my second conference and it was very well run. It seemed very well planned out and well organized. The hotel and location of

the conference was very nice and suited the purpose of the conference. One of the best strengths of this conference was that it was held in Ottawa. This meant the first year students were able to socialize in Quebec at night. One of the things that could have been improved at this conference was not having as much walking to and from the campus. It was cold and wet at times.

ii) Delegate

I think I was an excellent delegate at this conference. I represented the University of Guelph very well. I attended all sessions. I was able to learn many things I could bring back to our engineering society. I learned a lot about the ESSCO as well as other universities throughout Ontario. From this experience I gained a lot of contacts at other universities. I met a lot of other university engineering students. I think I achieved all the goals I set for myself at this conference and even more. If I was to get another chance to attend a conference I would take more notes during the sessions so I could have a bit more detail in my reports.